

RESPONSIVE READING

from Deuteronomy and Psalms

One: The Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome who is not partial and takes no bribe,

All: who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.

Deuteronomy 10:17-18

One: When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it;

All: it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all your undertakings.

Deuteronomy 24:19

One: “Cursed be anyone who deprives the *alien, the orphan, and the widow* of justice.”

All: All the people shall say, “Amen!”

Deuteronomy 27:19

One: The Lord watches over the strangers;

All: he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

Psalms 146:9

One: “Father of *orphans* and protector of *widows*” is God in his holy habitation.

Psalms 68:5

All: Happy are those who consider the poor; the Lord delivers them in the day of trouble.

Psalms 41:1

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE

Ruth 1:1-5, 22

¹In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live **in the country of Moab**, he and his wife and two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went **into the country of Moab** and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons.

⁴**These took Moabite wives;** the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon

and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. – ²²So Naomi returned [to Bethlehem] together with **Ruth the Moabite**, her daughter-in-law, who came back with her **from the country of Moab**. They came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

Ruth 2:1-3, 5-6, 8-12

Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband’s side, a prominent rich man, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. ²And **Ruth the Moabite** said to Naomi, “Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favor.” She said to her, “Go, my daughter.” ³So she went. ⁵Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, “To whom does this young woman belong?” ⁶The servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, “**She is the Moabite** who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. ⁸Then Boaz said to Ruth, “Now listen, **my daughter**, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. ⁹Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped, and follow behind them. I have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn.”

¹⁰Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, “Why have I found favor in your sight, that you should take notice of me, **when I am a foreigner?**”

¹¹But Boaz answered her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before.

¹²May the Lord reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the Lord, the God of Israel, *under whose wings you have come for refuge!*”

Zephaniah 2:9a-10

⁹Therefore, as I live, says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, **Moab** shall become like Sodom and the Ammonites like Gomorrah, ¹⁰This shall be their lot in return for their pride, because they scoffed and boasted against the people of the Lord of hosts.

Jeremiah 48:46-47

⁴⁶Woe to you, **O Moab!** The people of [the god] Chemosh have perished, for your sons have been taken captive, and your daughters into captivity [by Babylon].

⁴⁷Yet I will restore the fortunes of **Moab** in the latter days, says the Lord.

ADDITIONAL READING

The Satellite Library (*located downstairs across the hall from the bookstore, just outside of Stone Hall*), has a new selection of books pertaining to refugees. Books are free to check out, so come and enjoy!